

The BROAD AX

HEW TO THE LINE; LET THE CHIPS FALL WHERE THEY MAY

Vol. XXII.

CHICAGO, APRIL 14, 1917

No. 30

The Twenty-First Annual Minstrel and Dance Given by the Amateur Minstrel Club for the Benefit of the Old Folks Home, Easter Monday Night at the Eighth Regiment Armory, Was a Grand Success. It Was Attended by More Than Two Thousand People

NOT ANOTHER NEWSPAPER IN CHICAGO GAVE ANY PUBLICITY TO THE AFFAIR TO THE EXTENT OF ONE LINE FOR ADVERTISING OR OTHERWISE. THE GREATEST WEEKLY NEWSPAPER IN THE WORLD WANTED TO CHARGE EIGHT OR TEN TIMES MORE THAN A SMALL AD WOULD BE REALLY WORTH, AND ITS OWNERS WOULD NOT CONSENT TO MAKE ANY REDUCTION IN ITS ADVERTISING RATE TO ASSIST A WORTHY CHARITABLE INSTITUTION.

SO IT REMAINED FOR THE BROAD AX, SINGLE HANDED AND ALONE, TO SPREAD THE NEWS FAR AND NEAR IN CONNECTION WITH THE AMATEUR MINSTREL BALL, AND IT FILLED THE EIGHTH REGIMENT ARMORY TO OVERFLOWING.

MR. CHARLES F. GUNTHER, THE FAMOUS CANDY MANUFACTURER, AND OTHER PROMINENT WHITE CITIZENS ATTENDED THE AFFAIR AND GREATLY ENJOYED IT. IT WAS BY FAR THE BEST SHOW SO FAR GIVEN BY THE AMATEUR MINSTREL CLUB.

MAJOR ROBERT R. JACKSON AND THE EVER POPULAR AND COMICAL JOE SHOECRAFT CRACKED JOKES AT THE EXPENSE OF JULIUS F. TAYLOR, WHICH BROUGHT DOWN THE HOUSE.

E. H. WILLIAMSON, THE POPULAR AND UP-TO-DATE FUNERAL DIRECTOR, AT 5028 S. STATE STREET, CONVEYED TEN OR TWELVE OF THE INMATES OF THE OLD FOLKS' HOME TO AND FROM THE EIGHTH REGIMENT ARMORY IN TWO OF HIS LARGE AUTOMOBILES FREE OF CHARGE.

Monday evening the Amateur Minstrel Club gave its twenty-first annual minstrel and dance at the Eighth Regiment Armory, 35th street and Forest avenue. It was for the benefit of the Old Folks' Home and to the great delight of those who are deeply interested in the home it was more than a grand success, for it was attended by more than two thousand people and the very best class of people were in evidence; in fact, the cream of the four hundred among the Afro-Americans in this city were out in full force and mingled with those not so high up in the social scale, and the many ladies in all their Easter finery and trimmings looked ever so sweet and charming. Right here it must be said that the people in this city have long since concluded that those who are connected with the Amateur Minstrel Club are on the square; that they are in dead earnest in working for a good cause; that their shows and dances are always looked forward to as the most pleasant and enjoyable social events of the Easter or the Spring season.

Not one newspaper in Chicago aside from The Broad Ax gave the affair one line of publicity in any manner, shape or form. The greatest weekly newspaper in the world wanted to charge eight or ten times more than a small ad was really worth. It would not consent to make the slightest reduction in its regular advertising rates in order to assist a most worthy charitable institution; therefore it remained for The Broad Ax, single-handed and absolutely alone, to spread the news far and near in connection with the amateur minstrel show and dance and without any blowing about it, it filled the Eighth Regiment Armory to overflowing.

The following program was entertainingly rendered by the minstrel boys during their evening's frolic:

Entertainers of the evening—Bones: Harry Hensley, I. N. Dunlap, Macon Higgins, Clarence Mayo. Tambos: Major R. R. Jackson, Andrew Childress, Howard Cornwell, Joe Shoecraft. Opening chorus, "How's Everything in Dixie?" Company: "Blue—Just Blue," Macon Higgins; "Lindy," J. Ernest Oldham; "Pray for the Light to Go Out," Howard Cornwell; "The Lost Chord" (imitation), A. W. Ray; "Georgia Moon," Richard E. Moore; "Oh! How She Could Yacki-Hacki-Wacki," Charles Settles; "Shim-Me-Wobble," Major R. R. Jackson; "Turn Back the Universe," George F.

Proctor; "On the Puppy's Tail," I. N. Dunlap; "Last Night When the World Was Mine," D. Goodloe Smith; "A Few Foot Notes," D. Rudolph Lawrence; "Roll On, Thou Dark and Deep Blue Ocean," Edward Hagen; "Naughty, Naughty, Naughty," Clarence Mayo; "The Darktown Strutter's Ball," Andrew J. Childress; "Beautiful Bed," Joe Shoecraft; closing chorus, "Yankee Doodle Boy," company.

The following are the officers and members of the Amateur Minstrel Club: Howard Cornwell, president; David Hawley, treasurer; Chas. S. Washington, secretary; Rush Yerby, assistant secretary; David McGowan, musical director; Isaac N. Dunlap, Property man. Members, D. R. Lawrence, Jos. Shoecraft, Frank B. Waring, H. H. Horsley, Morris Bell, Chas. Settles, A. A. Brown, Dr. J. H. Plummer, Ernest Oldham, Clarence Mayo, Geo. Proctor, L. V. Berry, F. L. Cuffee, W. H. Washington, R. R. Jackson, Andrew Childress, Ralph McKinley, D. G. Smith, Jack Doyle, Macon Higgins, Edw. Hagen, R. E. Moore, Jr., A. W. Ray, Wm. H. Jackson, Rush Yerby, I. T. Yarbough, R. Thomassen and William Carroll.

Prof. Steward's K. P. band and orchestra furnished the dancing music, which was very catchy and classy. Mr. Charles F. Gunther, the far famed candy manufacturer, and other prominent White citizens who are greatly interested in the welfare of the Colored people, were present and hugely enjoyed the affair, which was by far the very best show so far given by the Amateur Minstrel Club.

Major Robert R. Jackson and the more than ever popular and comical Joe Shoecraft both joined in cracking jokes at the expense of Julius F. Taylor. The gallant major started in to lay or work on us thusly: He shouted, "Say, Mr. Carroll, you know Julius F. Taylor, editor of The Broad Ax," and Mr. Carroll responded, "Yes; what about him?" Major Jackson replied, "Oh, nothing, but don't you know that he attended a big Lincoln and Douglass celebration last winter at the Wendell Phillips High School, and he was sitting well up in the front while the Hon. A. H. Roberts was engaged in delivering one of his most eloquent orations and in his long to be remembered closing peroration he exclaimed, 'In looking down or back through the corridors of time that in a vision or dream that he beheld the dead forms of the immortal Wendell Phillips, Harriet

Beecher Stowe, Abraham Lincoln, Charles Sumner, John Brown, who cheerfully kissed the lips of a little black baby just before his life was ended at Harper's Ferry, Virginia. All of those White friends accomplished great work for my people. In my vision I can also see the forms of many other good White friends who have in the past performed many noble deeds for my race.' At that point Major Jackson stopped real short and shouted, 'Mr. Carroll, don't you know before the Hon. A. H. Roberts had finished his eloquent peroration that Julius F. Taylor turned real white in the face and as he grabbed his hat and overcoat I heard him say, 'Let me bust out of here; Brother Roberts can see too many dead people for me,' and more than two thousand people enjoyed a hearty laugh at our expense and they had no more than settled down to quietude before Joe Shoecraft started them to laughing again with one of his funny short stories at our expense in connection with Alderman-elect Louis B. Anderson and The Broad Ax.

With much pleasure it can be stated right here that E. H. Williamson, the hustling and up-to-date funeral director at 5028 South State street, conveyed ten or twelve of the inmates of the Old Folks' Home to and from the Eighth Regiment Armory in two of his best and finest automobiles free of charge, which was very nice indeed on the part of Mr. Williamson, and it simply proves that he has a large, warm heart in him.

The 40 Boys gave their services and refused to use complimentary tickets, but bought them. Messrs. Wm. J. Kelly, Walter M. Abernathy had charge of the young ladies. Ushers—the following young ladies served as ushers and made over \$50 selling flowers and programs: Aldine Bussey, Thelma Washington, Grace Galloway, Annie Walton, Grace Cunningham, Mayme Edmondson, Lucille Brewer, Marie Johnson, Nellie Scruggs, Bertha Moseley, Norma Kennedy, Mary Walker, Swersie McGooden, Hattie McCray, Ernestine Oldham, Helen Adams, Georgie Osby, Jennette Triplett, Laraine Jones, Nannie Higgins, Janine Christey, Irene Hudlin, Ruby Clark, Joseline Hadley, Annette Meaux, Dorothy Ware, Belozara Towles, Ida Taylor, Caro Lewis, Cathrine Twiggs.

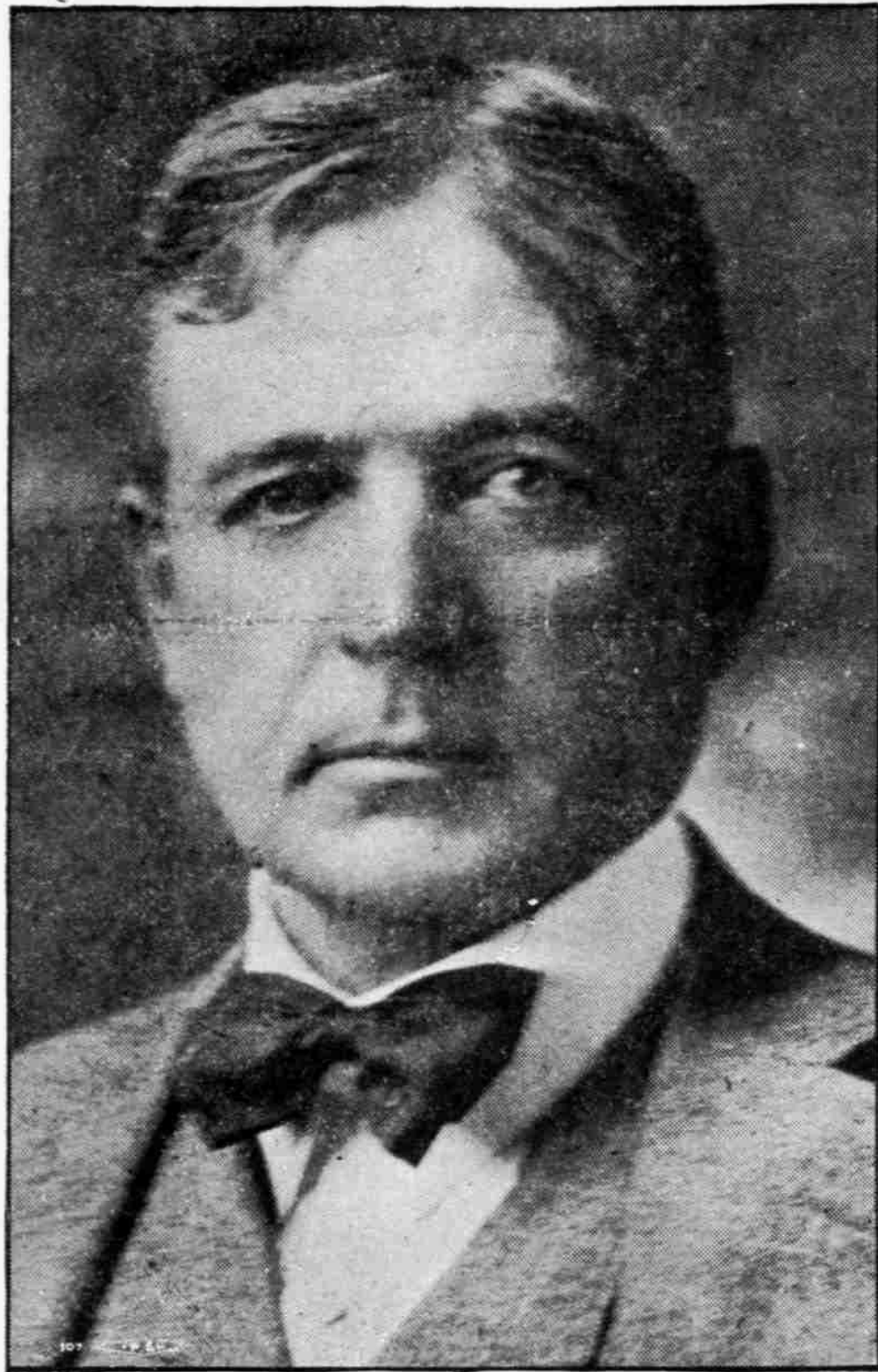
The following young men gave their services: Master Robt. Hardin, Jr., Master Reginald Hardin, Master Arthur Thomas, Master David Hawley, Jr.

The house committee of the Old Folks' Home, with Mrs. Dent as chairman, about fifteen ladies (and they bought their tickets) served the frappe, realizing about \$58.

Without any doubt it showed a very broad spirit on the part of the above mentioned persons to donate their services free and then pay their way into the Eighth Regiment Armory in order to make the affair for the benefit of the Old Folks' Home a grand success.

ALDERMAN OSCAR DePRIEST WILL HAVE HIS DAY IN COURT, BEGINNING ON MAY 15.

On May 15th Alderman Oscar DePriest, through his attorney, Clarence S. Darrow, will start in to have his day in the Criminal Court of Cook county. For on that day his trial will begin and his many friends sincerely hope that he will be able to clear or free himself of all the criminal charges which have been heaped upon him by the honorable state's attorney of Cook county.



HON. FRANK O. LOWDEN

The loyal and patriotic governor of the great state of Illinois who is ready and willing to do everything in his power to assist President Woodrow Wilson to hold the stars and stripes aloft and to wage a successful warfare against the enemies of this mighty nation.

SOME OF THE WHITE AND COLORED REAL ESTATE AGENTS ARE PLANNING TO SEGREGATE OR "JIM CROW" THE COLORED PEOPLE IN CHICAGO SO AS TO ENABLE THEM TO SPEND THE MONEY THEY PAY FOR TAXES TO IMPROVE AND BEAUTIFY THE STREETS IN THE DISTRICTS WHERE THE WEALTHY WHITES RESIDE

And Permit the Streets and the Houses Where the Colored People Reside to Remain in an Unimproved and Unsanitary Condition.

For some years past some of the White and Colored real estate agents in this city have been in a secret compact or combination to rob and plunder the Colored people by charging them the very highest rent possible for tumbledown shacks and to cheat them in every way they possibly could when they have succeeded in saving a little money to buy a home for themselves.

This same class of White and Colored real estate agents have at last become so bold that they are now in favor of establishing a "Jim Crow" or segregated, unsanitary districts throughout Chicago and to force or compel all the Colored people to reside in such districts and the money which they pay

for taxes to be used to beautify the streets and boulevards where the wealthy Whites reside.

At a meeting of the Real Estate Board last Monday afternoon, George H. Jackson and some one by the name of Manns, in a round about way, indorsed this "Jim Crow" proposition and George W. Faulkner and George H. Jackson were selected with two of the White members of the board as a committee to bring in a resolution in harmony with the "Jim Crow" idea for Colored people at a meeting of the board. Next Monday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock A. L. Jackson, secretary of the Y. M. C. A., Julius F. Taylor and Attorney A. L. Williams and several others delivered strong talks against the moral right of any White or Colored real estate agent to dictate to the Colored people of Chicago on what streets or avenues they must reside.

Hon. John E. Owens, whose law offices are on the fourteenth floor of the Conway Building, continues to be much talked of for mayor of Chicago in 1919, and many of the big politicians claim that he is the most logical candidate to lead the democratic hosts on to victory at that election.

MAJOR ROBERT R. JACKSON'S "BIRTH OF A NATION" BILL HAS PASSED BOTH BRANCHES OF THE LEGISLATURE OF ILLINOIS.

On Wednesday the bill which Major Robert R. Jackson introduced and passed in the house of representatives prohibiting the reproduction of any hanging or lynching by moving picture, play, sketch or lithograph, was passed by the state senate, thirty-three senators voting in favor of the bill and just as soon as it receives the signature of Governor Frank O. Lowden, such vicious moving picture plays as "The Birth of a Nation" will not be permitted to show in Illinois.

FUR SCARF FOUND AT THE MINSTREL SHOW.

Monday evening some lady attending the minstrel show at the Eighth Regiment Armory lost a fur scarf. She can obtain the same by proving ownership to it, by calling on Charles S. Washington, 3258 Vernon avenue.

C. J. Waring has removed his law offices from 143 N. Dearborn street to the Metropolitan Block, corner Randolph and LaSalle streets.